

REMARKS

1. In the above mentioned Office Action, the Examiner required restriction to one of the following inventions under 35 U.S.C. § 121: Group I (claims 1-6), Group II (Claims 7 and 8), Group III (Claims 9 and 10), Group IV (claims 11-14), Group V (claims 15-18), and Group VI (claims 19-23). The Applicant makes an election below, with traversal. Reconsideration and removal of the restriction requirement are hereby respectfully requested.

2. The Applicant cancels claims 1-14 above. The cancelled claims were previously restricted under Groups I, II, III, and IV. Claims 15-23, that remain pending in the instant application, fall under Group V and Group VI.

3. Applicant amends claim 15 above, classified under Group V in the restriction requirement, to include an additional limitation of *retaining the core assembly by engaging an upper side thereof with a pressure-applying roof while the core assembly is in the fastening position*. The Examiner states in the Office Action (page 7 under heading No. 16) that the inventions of groups V and VI are related as process and apparatus for its practice and are distinct because the process (Group V) does not require a pressure-applying roof as recited in the apparatus (Group VI). Claim 15, as amended, now requires the additional limitation. Removal of the restriction requirement between Group V and Group VI is respectfully requested.

4. The Applicant provisionally elects claims 19-23, classified by the Examiner as belonging to Group VI, for further prosecution.

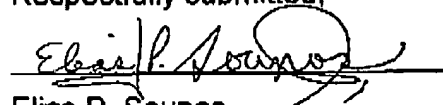
5. The telephone interview with the Examiner on February 5, 2007 is appreciated. In that interview, the Applicant requested clarification of some of the restrictions, but no agreement was reached.

6. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone or facsimile if the Examiner believes that such a communication may advance the prosecution of the present application. Withdrawal of the restriction requirement and an action on the merits are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: February 5, 2007

By:



Elias P. Soupos
Registration No. 57,375
Voice: (708) 865-4178
Fax: (708) 865-3474